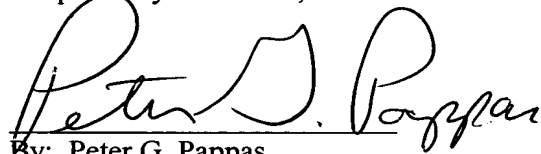


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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

**Remarks**

Applicant hereby claim priority under 35 U.S.C. §119(e) and U.S.C. §365(b) to International Application Number PCT/EP2002/007967, filed on 17 July 2002. The specification has been amended to include the priority application information. The claims have been amended to put the claims in a more preferred format for U.S. examination and to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter G. Pappas", is written over a horizontal line.

By: Peter G. Pappas  
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Date: January 13, 2005

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